

Any one at all conversant with the literature of the neuroses, will concede that the border-line distinctions have been drawn by the author with good judgment and reasonable clearness of outline. A need has long existed for authoritative statements in this branch of medical science, both for the guidance of those who may give expert testimony, and those whose duty it is to weigh the evidence. The present volume must be considered a substantial contribution to the subject. The text is enriched by numerous case reports, and copious references to a fairly extended bibliographical appendix. The illustrations are, for the greater part, inferior, being deficient in number and lacking distinctness of detail. C. Q.

A Text-Book of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and Pharmacology. By George F. Butler, Ph. G., M. D., Associate Professor of Therapeutics in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Chicago; Professor of Medicine and Therapeutics, Dearborn Medical College. W. B. Saunders Company. 1906.

Four years have passed since the appearance of the last edition of this work. During this time there has been a noteworthy activity in the study of pharmacological phenomena. Researches in the newly opened fields of physical chemistry have had a large part in the interpretation of physiological functions and this has to a remarkable degree affected experimental pharmacology. The results, in many instances striking, call for a revision of older views. Professor Jelliffe, of Columbia University, the editor of the present edition, has made excellent use of the practical results of this newer work. This is especially well seen in his discussion of the dissociation theory. The general arrangement of the book has been changed with reference to the classification of drugs. While it has been recognized that any system of grouping has its drawbacks, the plan of considering together drugs having physiological similarity is best calculated to engage the interest of medical students. In addition to the official drugs many of the newer compounds recently introduced into medical practice are discussed, especially their toxicology. Throughout the volume the scientific interest and practical side of the discussion are nicely sustained. For practitioner or student it will be an invaluable work of reference. A. J. L.

A Compend of Materia Medica, Therapeutics, and Prescription Writing. By Samuel O. L. Potter, M. D., M. R. C. P. Lond. Formerly Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine in the Cooper Medical College of San Francisco, etc. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia. 1906.

Materia Medica and Therapeutics. By Edward J. Kiepe, Ph. G., M. D. Professor of Materia Medica in the Department of Pharmacy and Adjunct Professor of Materia Medica and Pharmacology in the Medical Department, University of Buffalo. Lea Brothers & Co., Philadelphia. 1906.

The reviewer does not feel that either of these two compends call for any special comment. One is a new book and the other a new edition of a well known work. The object of both is to present in an epitomized form the subject of which they treat. Intended chiefly for medical students, brevity of statement is one of the principal features. The text of both has been brought into conformity with the eighth revision of the U. S. Pharmacopoeia. In Dr. Potter's manual there has been some attempt to classify drugs from the therapeutic standpoint rather than from their chemical relationships; Dr. Kiepe, on the other hand, does not evidently see much advantage in this for the arrangement is merely alphabetical. Moreover the last named work is not nearly so comprehensive as the former since

it is restricted to the official list. The therapeutic section is also less satisfactory. Both compends are excellent, but we believe that the older book will still retain its well earned popularity.

A. J. L.

Golden Rules of Surgery. Aphorisms, Observations and Reflections on the Science and Art of Surgery. By Augustus Charles Bernays, A. M., M. D., M. R. C. S., Life Member of the German Society for Surgery of Berlin, Chief Surgeon Lutheran Hospital, etc. The C. V. Mosby Medical Book Co., St. Louis. 1906.

This little book, gracefully dedicated to Dr. Charles H. Mayo, contains a fund of rich information based upon the author's surgical experience during the last thirty years. Throughout the volume will also be found philosophical causeries of considerable interest. The opening chapter on the making of a surgeon is excellent. The prevailing idea, elsewhere treated by Osler, is that the creative, pathfinding, or epoch-making ideas come to men before they are forty years of age; therefore the education of a surgeon should begin early. The major portion of the book is devoted to the "Golden Rules of Surgery," a series of surgical aphorisms after the manner of Hurry Fenwick. The Reminiscences in the concluding chapter are entwined about no less personalities than the great morphologist, Gegenbaur, Gustav Simon, Joseph Lister, Marion Sims, and V. Langenbeck, surgeons, and Charles Darwin and Huxley. A. J. L.

Clinical Bacteriology and Haematology for Practitioners. By W. D'Este Emery, M. D., B. Sc. Lond. Clinical Pathologist to King's College Hospital and Pathologist to the Children's Hospital, Paddington Green; formerly Assistant Bacteriologist to the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and Sometime Lecturer on Pathology and Bacteriology in the University of Birmingham. P. Blakiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia. 1906.

Among the many methods of clinical investigation those of the bacteriologist have for a long time occupied a prominent position. Unfortunately, however, their general practical application has been much restricted. While all concede that in many cases much valuable information may be obtained by such investigations, the general criticism has been that they are not often possible on account of the technical skill and laboratory facilities required. With this in mind, Dr. Emery has endeavored in his book to bring the bacteriological laboratory closer to the bed-side by showing that with the aid of simple methods useful results may be obtained. The author takes the well grounded position that the examination on the spot by the practitioner may be of far greater value than the one made by a bacteriologist at a distance. The correctness of this view is at once apparent since experience shows that a report from a public laboratory, whilst of considerable value in supplying facts, the inferences to be drawn therefrom will largely depend on the more or less intimate knowledge of the patient's history and the manner in which the material for examination has been obtained. The subject matter of the book is, for the most part, devoted to clinical bacteriology with two brief and yet excellent sections on haematology and cyto-diagnosis. The descriptions of the simple technical methods advocated are good, and the interpretation of laboratory findings is well and practically discussed. It does not seem to us, however, that the author sufficiently emphasizes the caution necessary in the conclusions to be drawn from direct swab examinations in cases of suspected diphtheria. Again, our surprise is even greater in reading that, next to the influenza bacillus, the most important excitant of clinical influenza is the micrococcus catarrhalis.